

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) A method of preparing amphipathic polymer particles comprising the steps of:

admixing an aqueous carrier, an unsaturated monomer containing a hydrophobic moiety, an unsaturated monomer containing a convertible moiety in hydrophobic form, and a surfactant to form an emulsion;

initiating a polymerization by adding a catalyst to the emulsion,

continuing polymerization at a temperature and for a period of time sufficient to form amphipathic polymer particles,

wherein the amphipathic polymer particles have a size range of 50-500 nm.

7. (original) The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of filtering the reaction mixture through a filter.

8. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the emulsion further contains a polymerizable dye monomer.

9. (original) The method of claim 6, wherein the emulsion further contains a cross linker.

10. (original) The amphipathic polymer particles produced by the method of claim 6.

11-23. (canceled)

24. (new) The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of converting the convertible moiety to a hydrophilic form after the amphipathic polymer particles are formed.